


**Re: Fw: Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed**

James Werntz to: Greg Weigel  
Cc: Calvin Terada, Chris Field, Dave Tomten

10/12/2010 03:11 PM

Thanks for the additional context, Greg. And, nice leverage from the OSC/removal front. -Jim

James H. Werntz, Director  
Idaho Operations Office  
EPA Region 10  
1435 N. Orchard Street  
Boise, ID. 83706

(208) 378-5743 (phone)  
(208) 378-5744 (fax)  
werntz.james@epa.gov

Greg Weigel

Thanks Jim, This is a project for which DEQ des...

10/12/2010 01:33:58 PM

From: Greg Weigel/R10/USEPA/US  
To: James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Chris Field/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Calvin Terada/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Dave Tomten/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 10/12/2010 01:33 PM  
Subject: Re: Fw: Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed

Thanks Jim,

This is a project for which DEQ deserves kudos. They oversaw this multi-million \$\$ removal action that was of high interest to EPA and Forest Service. The initial plan did not call for daylighting Georgetown Creek. This is private patented land, but Forest Service land downstream. Threat was that the culvert that carried G-town Creek through the site would eventually fail (it had already reached it's engineered life span). We pushed DEQ to push NuWest to daylight the Creek. The implicit understanding was that if they didn't do it, we'd step in. They stepped up and got a good project done.

Greg Weigel  
Federal On-Scene Coordinator  
US EPA Region 10  
Idaho Operations Office  
(208) 378-5773 office  
(208) 867-3710 cell

James Werntz

fyi -- compliments for you! James H. Werntz, Dir...

10/12/2010 01:05:47 PM

From: James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US  
To: Greg Weigel/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 10/12/2010 01:05 PM  
Subject: Fw: Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed

fyi -- compliments for you!

USEPA SF



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James H. Werntz, Director  
Idaho Operations Office  
EPA Region 10  
1435 N. Orchard Street  
Boise, ID. 83706

(208) 378-5743 (phone)  
(208) 378-5744 (fax)  
werntz.james@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US on 10/12/2010 01:00 PM -----

From: <Bruce.Olenick@deq.idaho.gov>  
To: James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 10/12/2010 07:34 AM  
Subject: RE: Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed

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Thanks Jim. Can you forward a thank you to Greg Weigel? Can't seem to find his e-mail. Have a great week.

B

Bruce Olenick  
Pocatello Regional Administrator  
State of Idaho - Department of Environmental Quality  
444 Hospital Way, #300  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
(208) 236-6160

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-----Original Message-----

From: Werntz.James@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Werntz.James@epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Saturday, October 09, 2010 1:13 PM  
To: Bruce Olenick  
Subject: Re: Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed

Great pictures -- thanks Bruce!

James H. Werntz, Director  
Idaho Operations Office  
EPA Region 10  
1435 N. Orchard Street  
Boise, ID. 83706

(208) 378-5743 (phone)  
(208) 378-5744 (fax)  
werntz.james@epa.gov

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| From: |  
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|<Bruce.Olenick@deq.idaho.gov>|

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| To: |

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| Cami Grandinetti/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, <sherriaclark@fs.fed.us>

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| Cc: |

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| <Douglas.Tanner@deq.idaho.gov>, <MHart@agrium.com>,  
<mark.gamblin@idfg.idaho.gov>, <Toni.Hardesty@deq.idaho.gov>,  
|  
| <Orville.Green@deq.idaho.gov>, <Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov>,  
<blarson@fs.fed.us>, James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US@EPA,  
| <Lynn.Vanevery@deq.idaho.gov>, <Darrell.Early@deq.idaho.gov>,  
<Mark.Jeffers@deq.idaho.gov>, <Mark.Dietrich@deq.idaho.gov>,  
| <Barry.Burnell@deq.idaho.gov>

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| Date: |

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| 10/07/2010 02:22 PM

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| Subject: |

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| Georgetown Canyon Creek Unleashed

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All

Just wanted to pass along some pictures I took on Wednesday of Georgetown Canyon Creek being released into an engineered open-air channel after 50 years of flowing in a steel culvert below an industrial plant. The engineered channel is about ¾ of a mile long. This channel replaced the Central Farmers Industrial Phosphate Plant which only operated for a few years in the early 60's at the bottom of the Canyon. The Plant was dismantled and various ponds and pits were capped/remediated under State RCRA authority over the past several years in cooperation with other State and Federal partners to alleviate concerns associated with heavy metal/phosphate plant contamination. After re-establishing the open-air flow of the Creek, it is anticipated that it will take many hours/days for the Creek to saturate the engineered channel/riprap to create a continuous flow between the upper and lower sections of the Industrial Plant site.

Water quality of the creek is quite good and it is hoped that the project, along with other efforts being conducted by the USFS and IF&G along Georgetown Canyon Creek, will help re-establish the Creek as a stronghold habitat for Bonneville Cutthroat Trout. Currently, the Creek suffers from selenium contamination at approximately 3 times the State standard of 5 ug/L. It is hoped that additional action taken in the near future at the mine located on the ridgeline directly above this site will address the selenium issue and bring the Creek back into compliance.

Additional actions will be completed over the next two weeks to re-vegetate the channel slopes and cleanup the support operations at the site. In a few short years, it is also hoped that the re-growth at the site will begin to mimic the natural conditions that existed here more than 50 years ago!

Thanks to the EPA and USFS for their support efforts on this project. Additionally, a job well-done to Agrium/Nu-West and their contractors for keeping the project on schedule. If you need more info, do not hesitate to contact Doug Tanner or Mark Jeffers.

Bruce

Bruce Olenick  
Pocatello Regional Administrator  
State of Idaho - Department of Environmental Quality  
444 Hospital Way, #300  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
(208) 236-6160

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[attachment "7 CF Industrial Plant circa early 1960's.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "1 Placing a large splash rock below the release point.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "2 Georgetown Canyon Creek released.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "3 About 10 minutes after initial release.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "4 About 30 minutes after release.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "5 Oversight Contractor (JB) viewing the creek after release.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US] [attachment "6 After 2 hours the creek is at the halfway point - only remaining plant structure is the cement wall on the upper right.jpg" deleted by James Werntz/R10/USEPA/US]